

Ships are Sunk!

Special to the State.

Washington, December 11—Developments in the Venezuelan situation have been so rapid within the past week that the situation has already reached the acute stage, not only as regards the Caracas government, but for the United States as well. President Castro and the Washington authorities have never been on the best of terms and the hope has been cherished in the highest official circles here that he would go down before the revolutionists. Castro, however, has more than held his own; in some way he has managed to crush the revolution at almost every point until now Ciudad Boliver is the only important stronghold still in their hands and this is expected to fall within a week.

Exasperated by his promise to pay the claims against his government held by Great Britain and Germany, promises which have never resulted in cash, but only in continued delay, the London and Berlin governments determined more than a month ago to bring matters to a crisis in view of Castro's assurances that the revolution was well nigh crushed. Accordingly, acting under advices from their respective foreign offices, Dr. von Holleben, the German ambassador, and Sir Michael Herbert, the British ambassador, called at the State department some three weeks ago at separate times and made the formal request that in the event of a serious turn in the Venezuelan affairs Minister Bowen, the United States minister at Caracas be permitted to protect the lives and property of the German and English subjects in Venezuela. It is the invariable custom among powers to perform this service for a friendly nation involved in any international dispute and the Secretary of State cordially assured the ambassadors that their request would be granted. This was fully three weeks ago. Since that time Great Britain and Germany have sent numerous notes to President Castro, who, it is claimed, has completely ignored them. Indeed it is said that the representations of the two powers have not so much as been acknowledged. An ultimatum was issued Monday giving Venezuela 48 hours to answer the London and Berlin notes. In the meantime a formidable British-German fleet was assembled off Laguayra and on Tuesday President Castro departed from the precedent of all civilized countries and issued a decree that every German and British subject in Caracas be arrested at once. This action has involved the United States in an ugly situation. Having promised to protect German and British rights in Castro's capital it was incumbent on Minister Bowen to demand the immediate surrender of the person arrested.

Their release was refused, and acting under instructions from their respective governments the German and English ambassadors made preparations for the immediate enforcement of their demands by force.

On Tuesday afternoon the combined German and British fleet seized and towed outside the harbor at Laguayra all the Venezuelan vessels there—four warships, manned by 390 men. The next day the commander of the British fleet sent an ultimatum to President Castro at Caracas demanding the payment within 48 hours of \$345,000 to Great Britain and Germany in settlement of claims. The settlement not being made, the Venezuelan vessels were sunk, the sailors having been first taken off them.

This action created of course great excitement in Caracas and soon mobs gathered in the streets and made attacks on the British and German legations and on other citizens of those countries. At 10 o'clock on Wednesday night the governor of Caracas ordered the arrest of all British and German residents, and in a short time 205 of them were crowded into the police station. Minister Bowen of the United States is acting for Germany and Great

Britain and has demanded the release of the prisoners.

The situation is complicated, but no serious consequences are expected to follow.

**The Pride of Heroes.**

Many soldiers in the last war wrote to say that for Scratches, Bruises, Cuts, Wounds, Corns, Sore Feet and Stiff Joints, Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the best in the world. Same for Burns, Scalds, Boils, Ulcers, Skin Eruptions and Piles. It cures or no pay. Only 25c at J. E. Kaufmann's drug store.

**Diphtheria from Pencils.**

Passaic, N. J., Dec. 12—The board of health of this city has discovered that lead pencils used in the local public schools are the main cause of the large number of cases of diphtheria in this city. More than eighty cases have been reported. The students in the public schools receive a pencil each day. Before school closes these are collected and put into a box together. The contagion comes, the officers say, from the children putting the pencils into their mouths, after other children have done the same thing.

City Superintendent Paulding this afternoon issued an order that each pupil should keep a pencil continuously. His name will be marked on it and any other pupil found using it will be punished.

**A Timely Suggestion.**

This is the season of the year when the prudent and careful housewife replenishes her supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is certain to be needed before the winter is over, and results are much more prompt and satisfactory when it is kept at hand and given as soon as the cold is contracted and before it has become settled in the system. In almost every instance a severe cold may be warded off by taking this remedy freely as soon as the first indication of the cold appears. There is no danger in giving it to children for it contains no harmful substance. It is pleasant to take—both adults and children like it. Buy it and you will get the best. It always cures. For sale by J. E. Kaufmann.

**Gold in 1902 Cents?**

A letter was received at the sub-treasury yesterday from a Sunday school superintendent, a resident of a Brooklyn suburb, asking if it was true that a lot of molten gold had been spilled into the copper which went into the 1902 cents. The writer said that he had heard that such was the fact and that the coppers were now worth 25 cents each.

The sub treasury officers have answered the letter to the effect that they know of no such admixture at the mint, but that an unconfirmed report once had it that some gold had been spilled into the copper. They are wondering if the writer has been getting up a corner on cents through the Sunday school collections—New York Sun.

Read the following from B. H. Johnson, Many Springs, Mo: "I have used Ramon's Liver Pills and Tonic Pellets for biliousness, general debility and pains in the back and side, and they gave me speedy and lasting relief." The entire Treatment, ten Liver Pills and fifteen Tonic Pellets cost only 25 cents. One a dose, course a cure; trial dose free. Harman's Bazaar.

F. A. Stewart, of Spartanburg County, reports that a tenant on his farm raised 145 bushels of corn on an acre and half of land this year. About three-fifths of it was upland, the balance bottom. He took no special pains with it, as he was not trying for a special crop.

To improve the appetite and strengthen the digestion, try a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Mr. J. H. Seitz, of Detroit, Mich., says, "They restored my appetite when impaired, relieved me of a bloated feeling and caused a pleasant and satisfactory movement of the bowels." There are people in this community who need just such a medicine. For sale by J. E. Kaufmann. Every box warranted.

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ALL WORK WARRANTED.  
We examine your teeth free of charge and tell you just what your work will cost. All  
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LOOK FOR OUR SIGNS.  
DR. G. W. SHACKELFORD, D. D. S., Manager.  
November 5, 1902. 3w12.

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Merchants, Hotel and Boarding House  
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Our stock is as usual at this season large and varied and we can suit the wants of  
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35 pes Black Silk, Armures, Peau De Soie,  
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FEBRUARY 10, 1902.

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Final Discharge.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL  
persons interested that I will apply to  
the Hon George S. Davis, Judge of Prob-  
ate in and for the County of Lexington,  
State of South Carolina, on the 27th day of  
December, 1902, for a final discharge as  
Administrator of the Estate of John Sox,  
deceased.

J. E. SOX AGT.  
November 23, 1902.

Notice.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED TO THE  
Estate of Sally, Rosa and Elizabeth  
Amick, deceased, are hereby notified that  
they must make payment to the under-  
signed on or before the 22nd day of De-  
cember, 1902, and those who fail to do so  
against the